

BRUCE WILLIAM STODART JAMES.

1. PERSONAL PARTICULARS.

Bruce William Stodart JAMES, born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 18th September, 1928. Resident in Klang, Malaysia from 1929 until 1933. Returned to England in 1933 to commence schooling. Evacuated from Britain in August 1940 arriving in Perth, Western Australia, in October 1940. Resident in Western Australia for over 80 years.

2. EDUCATION.

Primary - **September 1933 - July 1938**. Spurlands School, Cryer's Hill, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, England.

Secondary - September 1938 - March 1940. Downs Lodge School, Sutton, Middlesex, UK.

- **April - July 1940**. Allhallows School, Rousden, Devon, England.

- **October 1940 - December 1945**. Wesley College, South Perth, Western Australia.

- **Junior Certificate Examination 1942** - 9 Subjects.

- **Leaving Certificate Examination** 1945 & 1946 - 8 Subjects.

Tertiary - **March 1946 - December 1950**. University of Western Australia, for the Degree of Bachelor of Engineering, majoring in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering; Degree conferred in October 1951.

March 1960 - October 1962. Enrolled as an External Student with the University of Western Australia for the Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in Economics. (Course not completed).

3. PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) Institution of Engineers - Australia

- Elected a Student Member in March 1951.
- Transferred to Member in January 1956.
- Transferred to Fellow in December 1973.
- Awarded Electrical College Emeritus Membership in 1997.
- Elected Honorary Fellow of the Institution in November 1999.
(The maximum number of Honorary Fellows throughout Australia at any one time in 1999 was 200)
- Chairman of the Bunbury Group of the W.A. Division in 1960.

Member of the Electrical and Electronics Branch Committee of the W.A. Division 1960-61,

1972, and 1980-97.

Member of the Board of Engineering of the W.A Division representing the Electrical College 1984-1988 and Engineering Heritage Panel, 1993-2001.

W.A. Division Committee. Member 1983-89.

" " " Vice-Chairman 1985-86 and 1986-87.

" " " Chairman 1987-88 (State President).

" " " Immediate Past Chairman 1988-89.

National Councillor 1987-88.

Member of the National Committee on Electric Energy 1984-88.

Member of the National Electric Energy Conference Committee 1983-84 for the Conference held in Perth in May 1984.

Member of the Electrical College Board 1989-92.

Chairman of the Institution of Engineers Annual Conference Committee, Perth 1987-89 when approximately 600 attendees attended the 4-day Conference at the Sheraton Hotel in May 1989 resulting in a profit of approximately \$22,000.

Member of the Engineering Heritage Panel of the W.A. Division 1990 to present date.

Chairman 1993-2001 of the Engineering Heritage Panel of the W.A. Division. During this period, chaired the nominations for four (4) National Engineering Landmark Heritage Plaquing Awards.

Member of the Western Australian National Engineering Heritage Conference Committee 1989-90.

Chairman of the two-day Industrial Heritage Strategy Conference held in June 1994 at the "A" Shed, Victoria Quay, Fremantle.

Member of the National Committee on Engineering Heritage 1995 - 2000.

Member of the Steering Committee for the First National Engineering Forum to be held in Perth in May 1997.

Accredited Professional Qualifications Interviewer 1988 -1997.

Member of the Steering Committee for the 2007 National Engineering Forum which was held in Perth in December 2007.

Presented a Paper entitled "Large Timber Structures in Western Australia" at the National Engineering Heritage Conference at Auckland, New Zealand, February 2000.

(b) **Institution of Electrical Engineers- London.**

Elected a Graduate Member in 1953.

Transferred to Member in May 1957.

Transferred to Fellow in April 1974.

Member of the Western Australian Committee from 1971 to the present time and holding the following positions:-

Hon. Secretary/Treasurer of the Western Australian Committee 1971-77.

Vice-Chairman of the W.A. Committee 1977-78.

Chairman of the W.A. Committee 1978-90.

Immediate past Chairman of the W.A. Committee 1980-82.

Overseas Representative of the Council for Western Australia 1981-87.

Member of the Overseas Board of the Institution of Electrical Engineers in London during 1984-1987 which involved three to four meetings per year in London.

Senior Overseas Board Member for the whole of Australia 1984-87.

Accredited Professional Qualifications Interviewer from 1977 to the present date.

4. **ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE.**

A. **Pre-graduation.**

1946-47. Two months with the Metropolitan Water Supply Department, Perth, W.A. collecting information on the bursting of asbestos-cement water mains.

1947-48. Three months with the Mechanical Engineering Department, University of Western Australia, involved on Mechanical Laboratory construction work.

1949. With the Metropolitan Water Board of London, England, and working for
(a) four months on the Lea Valley Reservoir construction,
(b) two months in the Soil Mechanics Laboratory at Aldermaston, Berkshire, on geomechanical investigations for a possible future dam site.
(c) Three months with W.H. Allen & Sons, Bedford, England on the construction and testing of A.C and D.C. motors, generators, steam turbines, forced draft fans for Daring Class Destroyers and a large water pump for the Rand Water Company in South Africa.

B. **Post Graduation.**

Employed from January 1951 to September 1987 with the State Electricity Commission of Western Australia. (Later known as the State Energy Commission of Western Australia.)

(a) January 1951 - November 1956.

Assistant Engineer with the State Electricity Commission of W. A. stationed at Picton Junction and under the direction of the District Engineer, South West Power Scheme, (Mr F. H. Palmer), engaged on :-

1. **Changeover of the electricity supply** from Direct Current to Alternating Current operation in the towns of Waroona, Donnybrook and Busselton in the South West.
2. **Design and construction of various 22kv and 66kv transmission lines** totalling over 430 km in length.
3. **Design and construction of a number of 66/22kv step - down substations.**
4. **General design of High Voltage and Low Voltage** distribution work.
5. **South West Rural Distribution System** - planning, detailed design and construction of electricity supplies for some 1300 rural consumers.
6. **Operational Experience** on High Voltage and Low Voltage transmission and distribution systems.
7. **General Consumer Engineering.**

(b) November 1956 - March 1968. As District Engineer, South West, stationed at Picton Junction and responsible to the Engineer-in-charge, South West System, based in Perth (Mr F.H. Palmer) for the electrical transmission and distribution system for the whole of the South West and Great Southern portion of the State of Western Australia, covering :-

1. **Administration** of some 40 Salaried Officers and over 250 Wages Staff.
2. **Planning** of some 1400 km of 132kv and 66kv transmission lines.
3. **Design and Construction** of some 1300 km of 132kv and 66kv transmission lines.
4. **Operational and Maintenance** control of the existing Transmission and Distribution System in the area.
5. **Policy Control** with reference to electrical safety and electrical inspections for the statutory supply of electricity to over 19,000 consumers.
6. **Financial and Budget Control** for the Annual Capital and Revenue Accounts for the area.
7. **Industrial negotiations** with Trade Unions.
8. **Development of new and improved engineering systems** including the first aerial patrolling programme for the High Voltage Transmission System.

(c) **March 1968 - July 1975.**

Assistant Country Transmission and Distribution Engineer stationed in Head Office in Perth and responsible to the Country Transmission and Distribution Engineer, (Mr E.B. Sheridan) for all areas of electricity supply outside the Metropolitan Area of Perth (Kununurra to Esperance) covering:-

1. **Programme Planning** of the Country System High Voltage Network up to 1982.
2. **Annual Capital Budget Preparation** for programmes totalling \$15M per annum.
3. **Supervision of Engineering Specification** preparations.
4. **Administration of Consumer Engineering** enquiries for the whole Country System.
5. **Policy formation and recommendation** for consumer installation work.
6. **General Liaison** work with the Country District Engineers, Accountants, the Stores Department, the Metropolitan System, the Design and Construction Department and the Power Production Department of the Commission.
7. **Policy Preparation requirements** for the Commission's Country Sub-Transmission Programme.
8. **Representative for the Supply Authorities** on the Electrical Workers' Board and the Electrical Contractors' Board of Western Australia.
9. **Representative for the State Electricity Commission of Western Australia** on the Electricity Supply Association of Australia Electro-Farming Committee No. 4.5 for the period 1969-75.

(d) **July 1975 - July 1976. Acting Executive Engineer, Central Engineering Services Group** stationed in Head Office and responsible to the Manager, Power Design and Engineering Services (Mr S.F. Clarkson) for :-

1. **Planning, Design, Construction and Operation** of the Commission's diesel power stations in country areas as covered by the Country Undertakings Group of the Commission (Kununurra to Esperance).
2. **Planning, Design, Construction and Operation** of the electricity distribution system of those country towns that the Commission operates under the terms of the Country Towns' Assistance Scheme.
3. **Operation and Functioning** of the Electrical Measurements and Testing Group of the Commission's Belmont Workshop.
4. **Purchase, Operation and Maintenance** of the Commission's metropolitan based vehicles and plant fleet of some 1700 items and support workshops as covered by the Transport and Vehicle Group of the Commission.

5. **Functioning of the Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Construction teams** and support workshops based at Belmont Depot and operated by the Construction and Workshops Group.
 6. **Operation of the Diesel Support Workshop** at the Belmont Depot.
 7. **Selection and Training of the Commission's Automotive and Electrical Apprentices** based in the metropolitan area.
 8. **Responsible for a total staff of approximately 1,000** persons stationed throughout Western Australia, being almost 20% of the Commission's total personnel.
- (e) **July 1976 - July 1981. Central Engineering Services Engineer** stationed in Head office and responsible to the Manager, Power Design and Engineering Services (Mr S F Clarkson and Mr P.B. Lowe) for :-
1. **All the Commission's Diesel Operated** country power stations and support workshops.
 2. **The Commission's Electrical Measurement and Testing** workshops.
 3. **The Purchase, Operation and Maintenance** of the Commission's motor vehicle and mobile plant fleet and support workshops (approximately 1,700 units).
 4. **Functioning of the Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Construction and Maintenance** teams and workshops.
 5. **Operation of a team of some 1,000 persons** stationed throughout Western Australia.
 6. **W.A. Representative on the Transport Committee** of the Electricity Supply Association of Australia 1978-84.
- (f) **July 1981 - July 1986. As Manager, Operational Services.**
based at Head Office and responsible to the Assistant Commissioner, Operations (Mr D Saunders) for :-
1. **The Commission's Electrical Measurement and Testing Workshops.**
 2. **The Commission's Motor Vehicle and Mobile Plant Fleet** and supporting workshops.
 3. **Initial setting up & operation of the Maintenance Function** of the Commission's 330kv, 220kv and 132kv main Power Transmission System.
 4. **Chairman of the Commission's Staff Suggestion Scheme Committee** 1984-1987.
 5. **Board Member of the Municipal Officers Association Appeal Tribunal** of the Western Australian State Industrial Commission 1984-1987.
- (g) **July 1986 - September 1987, As Manager, Inspection and Metering Services.**
based at Head Office and responsible to the Assistant Commissioner, Operations (Mr D Saunders) for:-

1. **The Operation of the Commission's Electrical Measurement and Testing workshops.**
2. **All the Commission's Electrical Inspection** activities.
3. **Deputy Chairman** of the Electrical Workers' Board and the Electrical Contractors' Board.
4. **Planning and Implementation** of a revised Electrical Inspection System to increase productivity and raise electrical safety standards throughout Western Australia.

5. **EXTRA-PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

A. **School** (Wesley College) 1940-45. (Youngest member in my Class 1940-1945)

- (a) House Prefect 1944.
School Prefect 1945.
School Vice-Captain 1945.
Vice-Captain Walton House 1945.

(b) **Scouting**, Wesley College Troop

Member 1940-46.
Patrol Leader 1943 and 1944.
Troop Leader 1945.
King's Scout 1943-45.
Gold Cord (18+ Proficiency Badges) 1944-45.
Assistant Scout Master 1946.

(c) **Air Cadets**, Wesley Flight.

Member 1943-45.
Corporal 1944.
Sergeant 1945.

(d) **Science Cadet** and Science Laboratory Assistant 1944 & 1945.

(e) **Sport**.

Cricket - Captain Wesley 2nd Eleven Cricket Team 1945.

B. **Sport**

Member of the University of WA Boat Club (Rowing) 1946-50 and holding the following offices :-

- (a) Club Secretary 1948.
(b) Organiser of the Intervarsity Regatta in Perth 1948.
(c) Club Captain 1950.

- (d) Delegate to the W.A. University Sports Council 1950.
- (e) Delegate to the Western Australian Rowing Association 1950.
- (f) Manager and Stroke Reserve of the Western Australian Intervarsity Rowing Crew - Melbourne May 1950.
- (g) Awarded a University Half Blue for Rowing 1948.

Member of the Bunbury Rowing Club 1952-57 and holding the following offices :-

- (a) Committee Member 1953-57.
- (b) Club Captain 1954-55.

Member of the Nedlands Yacht Club in the 1970s and sailing a Mirror Dinghy in the "B" Division.

C. **Service Clubs.**

Association of Apex Clubs.

Member of the Bunbury Apex Club September 1953 - March 1968 and the **Melville Apex Club** from April 1968 - August 1969 and held the following Club and Zone (State) offices :-

- (a) Secretary, Bunbury Apex Club 1954-56.
- (b) One of two Western Australian Delegates to the National Apex Convention held in Melbourne in Easter 1955.
- (b) Winner of the Apex Australia-wide Public Speaking Contest in Melbourne at Easter 1955.
- (c) Chairman of the National Apex Public Speaking Committee 1955-57.
- (e) President, Bunbury Apex Club 1964-65.
- (f) Expansion Director of the Bunbury Apex Club 1954-55 and formed the Manjimup Apex Club in 1955.
- (g) Western Australian Apex Zone Secretary/Treasurer 1956-57.
- (h) Leader of the three W.A. Delegates to the 1967 National Apex Convention in Mildura.
- (h) In 1966, visited 13 of the 14 Member Clubs of the World Council of Young Men's Service Clubs in Britain, France, Holland, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Canada, New Zealand, United States of America and Australia, all of whom had the same Charter Number of 26.
- (i) W. A. Zone 4 (State) Vice President 1966-67.
- (i) W.A. Zone 4 (State) President 1967-68 for Western Australia, Singapore and Malaysia covering 58 Clubs with over 1500 members.

- (j) Immediate Past Zone 4 (State) President 1968-69.
- (k) Elected **Life Member of the Bunbury Apex Club** August 1969.
- (m) Maintained 100% attendance record over 16 years of membership.

Rotary International.

Member of the Applecross Rotary Club from 21ST September 1971 until the present (2020) holding the following Club & District offices:-

- (a) Club Sergeant-at- Arms 1973-74.
- (b) Director of the Club Vocational Service Committee 1974-75.
- (c) Director Club Service Committee & President-Elect 1976-77.
- (d) Club President 1977-78.
- (e) Immediate Past Club President 1978-79.
- (f) Member of the District 9460 Vocational Service Committee 1978-85.
- (g) Chairman of the District 9460 Vocational Service Committee 1981-85.
- (h) Member of the District 9460 International Committee 1985-90 and 1993-1999.
- (i) District Governor's Group Representative for Group 2 of District 9460 1986-87.
- (j) Chairman District 9460 Rotary Foundation Payments Committee 1985-90.
- (k) Chairman District 9460 Rotary Foundation Promotion Committee 1985-87.
- (l) District 9460 Representative on the Curtin University Rotary International House Board of Management 1986 - 2000.
- (m) Rotary District Governor Nominee Designate 1989-90.
- (n) Rotary District Governor Nominee 1990-91.
- (o) Chairman Rotary District 9460 Bulletin Award Committee 1990-91.
- (p) Member District Club Service Committee 1990-91.
- (q) Chairman District Directory Committee 1990-91.
- (r) Chairman District Assemblies and Seminars Planning Committee 1990-91.
- (s) Rotary District Governor for District 9460 1991-92.

- (t) Member of the District 9460 Finance Committee 1989-95.
- (u) Chairman District 9460 Finance Committee 1992-93.
- (v) Chairman District 9460 Ambassadorial Scholarship Committee 1993-96.
- (w) Member District 9460 International Committee 1993-96.
- (x) Chairman District 9460 Membership Development and Expansion Committee 1994-96.
- (y) Member of the District 9460 Club Service Committee 1994-99.
- (z) Member of the Western Region Committee of Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd. 1991 to 2000.
- (aa) Hon. Treasurer of the Western Region Committee of Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd. 1996 to 2000.
- (bb) Vice-Chairman of the Western Region Committee of Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd. 1999 to 2000.
- (cc) Deputy Delegate from District 9460 for the Rotary International Council on Legislation held in India in 1998
- (dd) Maintained a 100% attendance record for over 48 years of Rotary Membership.
- (ee) Awarded a Rotary *Citation of Honour* in April 1987.
- (ff) Awarded a *Paul Harris Fellowship* on two occasions.
- (gg) Director Club Youth Committee Dec 1999-June 2000.
- (hh) Director Club International Committee 2000-2001.
- (ii) Chairman Club Jacaranda Festival Committee 2000-2001.
- (jj) Chairman Club International Committee 2000-2001.
- (kk) Club Treasurer 2001-2002.

D. General Community Service.

- (a) **Parents & Citizens Committee** South Bunbury Primary School.

A member of the Parents & Citizens Committee of the South Bunbury Primary school 1959-63 and holding the following positions :-

- (i) Vice President 1959 and 1960.
- (ii) President 1961 and 1962.

(b) **Bunbury Grand Piano Appeal Committee.** (1959 - 1968).

Elected at a Public Meeting to be the Chairman of the Bunbury Grand Piano Committee. The Committee was charged with the responsibility of purchasing a grand piano of suitable standard for the citizens of Bunbury that would enable the Australian Broadcasting Commission to bring international artists to perform in Bunbury. The Appeal raised over \$1,700. The Committee subsequently maintained a watching brief over the maintenance and hiring of the piano.

(c) **Australian Broadcasting Commission Concert Liaison Committees.**

Member of the Bunbury A.B.C. Concert Liaison Committee for the period 1959 and 1960.

Member of the Perth A.B.C. Concert Liaison Committee for 1969.

(d) **Marriage Guidance Council of Western Australia.** (1962-92).

In 1962, elected at a Public Meeting in Bunbury to be the Foundation President of the first Bunbury Committee of the Marriage Guidance Council of Western Australia and holding that position until March 1968.

In 1969, elected to the Executive of the Marriage Guidance Council of Western Australia and held the following positions :-

(a) Chairman of the Country Branches Committee. 1970 -73.

(b) Executive Vice Chairman 1972-73, 1989-92.

(c) Awarded *Honorary Life Member*

(e) **Bunbury Technical School Advisory Committee.** (1961-1968).

Invited to be a Foundation member of the Bunbury Technical School Advisory Committee in 1961 and held the following positions during the period 1961-1968:-

(a) President 1965- 68.

(b) Elected President of the South West Regional Committee for Technical Training Year 1966.

(c) Jointly with the Principal of the Bunbury Technical School, Mr Roy Dedman, responsible for the selection of the 200 acre area for the new Technical School site in Bunbury and the Future Tertiary Education Complex.

(f) **Parents & Friends Committee of Wesley College.** (1968-76).

A member of the Parents and Friends Committee of Wesley College, South Perth and holding the following positions :-

(a) Vice President 1971, 1974- 76.

(b) President 1972 and 1973.

(g) **Wesley College Council.** (1972-84).

A member of the Council of Wesley College, South Perth for the period 1972-84 and the following Committees :-.

(a) Member of the Finance and Properties Committee 1972-90.

(b) Sometime Member of the Priorities Committee.

(c) Sometime Member of the Buildings Committee.

(d) Sometime Chairman of the Art Advisory Committee.

(h) **St George's College, University of Western Australia, Crawley.**

Member of the College Council 1972-76 and 1991-92.

(i) **The Georgians.** (Past members of St George's College).

Member of the Georgians' Committee 1971-77.

President of the Georgians' Committee 1971-74.

Member of the Georgian's Archives Committee 1999-2001.

(j) **University of Western Australia - Convocation.** (the official Graduate Body of the University).

Member of the Standing and Statutes Committee of Convocation for the 1973-1988 period and holding the following positions :-

(a) Convenor of the Building and Club Sub-Committee 1973-78

(b) Convenor of the Australian University Graduate Conference Sub-Committee for the 1979 Conference held in Western Australia. 1978-79.

(c) Deputy Warden of Convocation 1980-82.

(d) Warden of Convocation 1982-84, 1985-86.

(e) Immediate Past Warden of Convocation 1984-85, 1986-88.

(f) Member of the "UNIWAY" "83 Executive Committee 1982-83.

(g) Chairman of the Irwin Street Building Restoration Committee 1986-87, which was

responsible for the relocation, rebuilding and fundraising of the first building of the University of Western Australia to its current site alongside James Oval at a cost of some \$250,000. When started in 1912, this building was the first building of the first Free University within the British Empire.

(h) Invited Senate Meeting Observer 1982-84 and 1985-86.

(i) Member of the Senate General Purposes Committee 1982-84 and 1985-86.

(k) **University of Western Australia - Senate.**

Elected a Member of the Senate of the University of Western Australia by Convocation for the period 1986-92 and holding the following positions :-

(a) Member of the Senate General Purposes Committee 1986-92

(b) Chairman of the Senate General Purposes Committee 1990-92.

(c) Member of the Senate Buildings Committee 1987-90.

(d) Member of the 75th Anniversary Committee 1986-88.

(e) Member of the Faculty of Engineering Advisory Board 1987 - 2000.

(l) **Heritage Council of Western Australia.**

Appointed a Councillor of the Heritage Council of Western Australia for the period 1993- 98 and holding the following positions :-

(a) Member of the Register Committee 1993-98.

(b) Chairman of the Register Committee 1995-98.

(c) Member of the Development Committee 1994-95.

(d) Member of the Finance and Legislature Committee 1995-98

(e) Awarded *Certificate of Merit* 29th October 1998.

(m) **Metropolitan Cemeteries Board.**

Appointed a Member of the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board from March 1994 to 2001 and holding the following positions :-

(a) Appointed Chairman of the Monumental Assessments Advisory Committee April 1996 and holding office until November 1999.

(b) Member of the Karrakatta Cemetery Centenary Advisory Committee 1998-2000.

(c) Presented a Paper entitled "Extending the Life of Cemeteries" at the Australian Cemeteries and Crematoria Association Annual Conference at Alice Springs in September 1998.

(d) Member of the Monumental Assessments Advisory Committee from 1999 until the present date.

E. Church Work.

1. St. Boniface Anglican Cathedral - Bunbury 1963-67.

(a) Appointed Bishop's Warden 1963-67.

(b) Senior Lay Canon of the Cathedral Chapter 1963-67.

(c) Elected a Member of the Diocesan Stipends Committee 1965-67.

(d) Elected Secretary of the Diocesan Missionary Council 1964-67.

(e) Elected to General Synod 1965-66.

(f) Elected to Provincial Synod 1967.

2. St David's Anglican Parish Church, Applecross - 1972 to the present.

(a) Elected a Member of the Parish Vestry 1972-74.

(b) Elected People's Warden 1972-73.

(c) Sidesman, Lesson Reader and Prayer Leader 1972 until June 2019.

F. Cultural Work.

1. Riverside Painters Club.

Chairman of the Riverside Painters Club 1971-2017. This Club was formed when the Adult Education Department of the University of W.A. closed its Saturday morning painting classes. It has been meeting at the University of W.A. Boat Club in Crawley Bay ever since.

G. Local Government Involvement.

1. Melville Amenity Preservation Inc.

Foundation member in 2003 and Honorary Treasurer 2004 to the present date.

2. Raffles Hotel.

Expressed grave concern on the proposed redevelopment of the Raffles Hotel site over the period 2003 to the present date.

3. Duncraig House.

Expressed grave concern on the proposed redevelopment of Duncraig House site over the period 2003 to the present date.

4. Wireless Hill Park.

Expressed grave concern of the Melville City Council's plan to:-

- (a) Sell the five original "Staff Quarters" buildings. Following two or three days of studying and copying Archival Papers from the Commonwealth Archives in Victoria Park, this involved personal letters to a number of Members of the State Legislative Council requesting them to oppose the Bill, which they did satisfactorily.
- (b) Change the original single title "A" Class Reserve to three "A" Class Reserves, each with a different use. This involved further research in the Archival Department of the Melville City Council and then sending personal letters to all the Councillors with copies of plans showing both the history and the magnitude of the Wireless Station during its operational life as well as corresponding with the State Ministers for Planning and Heritage and the Heritage Council of W.A.. This, together with other strong public comment, persuaded the Melville Council to not go ahead with their plans.

H. Hobbies.

- 1. Oil Painting.
- 2. Gardening.
- 3. Photography.
- 4. Reading.
- 5. Genealogy.
- 6. Listening to Classical Music.

6. MARITAL STATUS.

- 1. Married Helen Jeanette WILLIAMS 17th May 1952.
- 2. Three married sons and six grandchildren.

3. Ten great grandchildren as at August 2020.

7. AWARDS.

1. Awarded **Life Membership of the Bunbury Apex Club** in August 1969.
2. Awarded the Institution of Engineers, Australia **Electrical College Emeritus Membership** in 1997.
3. Elected **Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Australia** in November 1999.

(The maximum number of Honorary Fellows throughout Australia on this date at any one time was 150.)
4. Awarded a Rotary International *Citation of Honour* in April 1987.
5. Awarded a Rotary International *Paul Harris Fellowship* on two occasions.
6. Awarded the Heritage Council of Western Australia *Certificate of Merit* in 1989.
6. Awarded the **Medal of the Order of Australia** in the General Division in the Queen's Birthday 2001 Honours List on Monday 11 June 2001 for Service to the Community, as well as the Engineering Industry.
7. Awarded Australian **Centenary Medal** in 2003.
8. Nominated for the 2006 Citizen of the Year Award in recognition of outstanding achievement and contribution to the State and People of Western Australia. May 2006.
9. Awarded **Rotary International District 9460 Citation of Honour** April 1987.
10. Awarded **Sir Lionel Hooke Medal** by the Institution of Engineering and Technology in May 2012 and presented by xxx on Saturday 10th October 2012.
11. Made the first ever "Life Member" of the Applecross Rotary Club on 29th July 2020.

Question and Answer.

6. Who do you believe is the most outstanding contributor to your State and why?

Following the 1893 discovery of gold in Kalgoorlie by Paddy Hannan, I believe that the team of John Forrest, the first Premier of the Colony of Western Australia and Charles Yelverson O'Connor, Chief Engineer of the Public Works Department, have between them contributed more to the development of this State than any other persons since 1828.

The concept, design, construction of the Mundaring Weir, the eight steam driven pumping

stations and the 351 miles (566 kilometres) of 30 inch diameter steel pipeline from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie between 1896 and 1903 has had a greater influence on the development of this State than any other development programme.

This project was the key element that retained the goldminers who had come to W.A. from the Eastern Colonies and still had relatives and friends there, which had a marked effect in July 1900 when the Referendum of Federation was held. The “Yes” vote from these miners at Kalgoorlie and the other gold mines in W.A. outnumbering the “No” vote of Perth and Fremantle, enabled the Colony of Western Australia to become part of the Federal Commonwealth of Australia and not another separate country.

There are many people who have contributed outstandingly to Western Australia in many different fields. It is therefore very difficult to name a particular person. But I suppose that the one man who has made the most lasting significance would be C Y O'Connor. When I think back to the early 1900's when gold was first discovered in the Goldfields area of Western Australia, when Paddy Hannan first found gold in Kalgoorlie in 1893, a very large number of miners came to Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie from the Eastern Colonies of Australia. The gold mines expanded at a very large rate as the technology of gold mining and treatment advanced at an enormous pace. But there was a very great shortage of fresh water which made both working and living conditions very difficult. John Forrest passed an Act in the Western Australian Parliament in 1896 to build a water pipeline from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie and appointed C Y O'Connor as the Engineer for the whole project. Realising that water would be coming to the Goldfields in the foreseeable future, the miners were prepared to stay on. However, in 1900, a Referendum was held in this State to see if the people agreed to joining a Federation of Australia. The result of this July 1900 State Referendum, clearly shows that the voting population in Kalgoorlie and Boulder and the Laverton mining area outnumbered the voting population of Perth and Fremantle, whereas Fremantle and Perth were against joining the Federation. These ex-Eastern Colonies people nearly all voted to join the Federation. If the mines had closed because of a lack of fresh water, and the miners had gone back to their relatives and friends in the eastern Colonies, Western Australia may well have had a “NO” vote which may have resulted in Western Australia becoming another country. I believe that the progress that was being made by C Y O'Connor and his team in building Mundaring Weir, the eight pumping stations, the eight reservoirs and the 566 kilometres of pipeline certainly did encouraged the miners to stay here. The basic design of the whole project in making sure that any break in the pipe would not stop the people of Kalgoorlie continuing to receive fresh water. This was brought about by each of the eight pumping stations being constructed to pump its water into a reservoir which then became source for the next stage of pumping.

EXTRA. During my 37 years with the State Electricity Commission of Western Australia, although I was very often required to work over-time both during the 5-day week and at week-ends, I never once put in for any over-time payment. I felt that it was a form of voluntary service that I was giving to my State.

BJCV2019